

## 2019 SCPLT Facilitator Refresher

On July 9, Joanna Angle and Bill Altman hosted the 2019 SCPLT Facilitator Refresher at their home and tree farm...Cedarleaf Farm. Cedarleaf Farm is approximately 65 acres and is located in Chester County. Joanna Angle was awarded 2012 SC Tree Farmer of the Year for her work to conserve, protect and promote the forest resources at Cedarleaf Farm. Facilitators got a tour of Joanna and Bill's historic home (built in 1859 and on the National Register of Historic Places) and learned about the cultural history of the property. Next, we saw the pollinator field next to the house where Joanna and Bill have planted plants to attract butterflies, bees, and other pollinators. We then hiked through Cedarleaf Farm's forested lands and learned how they are managed from Joanna and Bill's consulting forester Roy Boyd (retired SC Forestry Commission forester). He explained how the management plan of Cedarleaf Farm reached the four tenants of the American Tree Farm System: Wood, Water, Recreation, and Wildlife.

After a delicious catered lunch from Buttermilk's BBQ in Chester, facilitators received updates about the PLT program and then were trained in how to use PLT's i-Tree unit at future workshops. PLT's new *Teaching with i-Tree* unit is "designed for use with middle and high school students and includes three hands-on activities that engage students in discovering and analyzing the many ecosystem services that trees provide. Students use the free, online i-Tree Design software (developed by the U.S. Forest Service) to calculate the dollar value of the benefits provided by a tree or a set of trees." The i-Tree unit can be used in conjunction with many PLT activities and allows students to use a GIS (Geographic Information System) and develop STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) skills.

Many thanks go to Joanna Angle and Bill Altman for opening their home to our facilitators and for being such great hosts! Their passion and commitment to conservation and environmental education was inspirational to our group. Thanks also goes to Roy Boyd for his time to educate our facilitators about forestry and the science behind forest management decisions. Thank you facilitators for your attendance this year and your commitment to the SC Project Learning Tree program.



Joanna Angle provided a tour of her historic home



Gardens behind Joanna and Bill's home





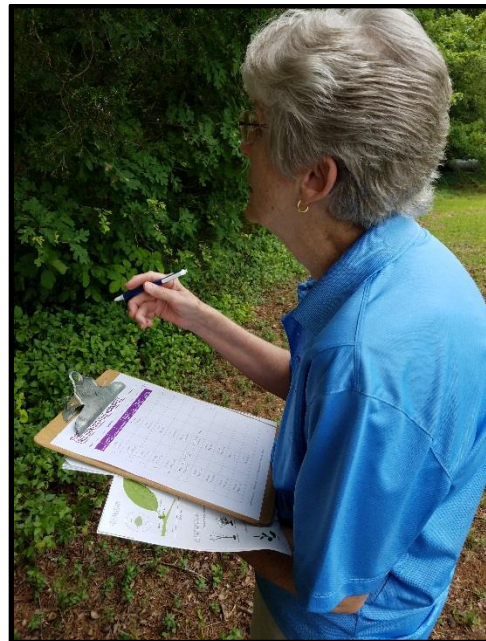
Joanna explaining the creation of the pollinator field



Chanda Cooper & Kelly Murphy identifying a tree



Bill explaining how forested watersheds protect water



Sharon Miller doing a PLT i-Tree lesson



Learning about forest management from Roy Boyd



Sarah Talley, Cassie Bell, and Chanda Cooper examining the growth rings of a tree with Roy and learning how growth rates affect management decisions



Asst. PLT Coordinator Beth Foley introducing i-Tree